CALIFORNIA
Water Boards
LAHONTAN REGION

## Lahontan Goals

- Protect Human Health
- Protect/Improve Aquatic Life and Surface Water Quality
- Support Disadvantaged Communities
- Respond to and Prepare for Climate Change

# 2015 KEY EFFORTS

### Nitrate and Salts in groundwater

- Ensure compliance with Drinking Water Replacement Water Orders (dairies and Barstow wastewater treatment plant);
- Require source control at dairies
- Require groundwater remediation at LACSD No. 20 and Barstow
- Review Mojave and Indian Wells Salt and Nutrient Management Plans
- Work with local government agencies to complete adequate Local Area Management Plans (LAMPs) for regulating onsite wastewater systems
- Revise wastewater treatment plant permits to require infrastructure improvements and reduced nitrogen and salt loading to groundwater
- Develop and implement strategy for irrigated lands

### Chromium in groundwater

- Oversee Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Hinkley Compressor Station cleanup, issue new Order and ensure background study completion
- Investigate Ducommon chemical manufacturing
- Investigate TXI cement plant

*Stock photo.*

### Perchlorate in ground waters

- Request funds for cleanup of Barstow perchlorate
- Support Division of Drinking Water assistance grant for perchlorate impacted area

### Petroleum in groundwater

- Close cleanup sites that are a low-threat to public health and the environment
- Identify recalcitrant sites and require priority sites to clean up groundwater

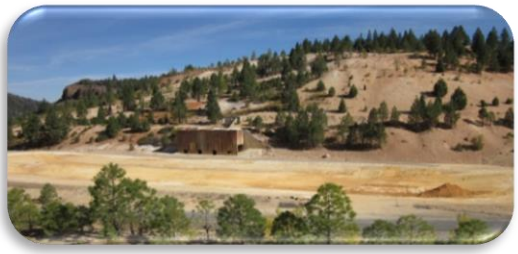
### Other pollution problems in groundwater

- Support Hinkley community to address arsenic, nitrate, and supply issues
- Require increased groundwater protection at American Organics Composting
- Require groundwater investigation, cleanup, and replacement water at PCE impacted sites
- Identify priority groundwater pollution cases and require investigation, plume control, cleanup
- Apply appropriate remedies (active, monitored natural attenuation, or combination)

### Bacteria in surface waters

- Participate in statewide grazing regulatory action program
- Continue to implement Proposition 84 Grazing Grant
- Update the Region's bacteria standards in collaboration with State Board's statewide bacteria objectives project
- Work with partners in Bishop Creek watershed to address sources of bacteria pollution

**Acidic Drainage at Leviathan Mine**



- Continue Water Board efforts to prevent discharge of untreated acid mine drainage into Leviathan Creek.
- Provide input to United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) on alternatives for a final remedy

**Mercury in surface waters**

- Analyze fish tissue from Susan River to verify water quality impairment
- Participate in statewide policy for reservoirs mercury control program

## Protect Aquatic Life and Surface Water Quality

- Track implementation of Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Squaw Creek, Indian Creek Reservoir, Heavenly Valley Creek, and Blackwood Creek Total Maximum Daily Load requirements
- Develop partnership agreements to implement supplemental environmental projects program
- Require avoidance and mitigation for construction projects to protect wetlands and riparian areas
- Develop publicly available guidance for using regulatory and monitoring tools to protect and restore water quality (i.e., NPDES/ waste discharge requirements for construction and industrial; 401 Certification/WDR for dredge and fill; bioassessment/rapid assessment program)

## Environmental Justice

- Participate in Integrated Regional Water Management projects involving disadvantaged communities (e.g. identify drinking water and community sewer needs)
- Work with USEPA to ensure Leviathan Mine final remedy that is protective of Washoe Tribe cultural resources and tribal community health
- Conduct Disadvantaged Community Risk Assessment – investigate domestic well quality
- Incorporate environmental justice when developing waste discharge requirements and permits
- Conduct education and outreach related to new funding programs associated with Water Bond

## Climate Change

- Compile workshop input into report and present recommendations for adaptation
- Conduct nearshore monitoring in Lake Tahoe to assess whether water quality changes are related to climate change
- Encourage recycled water projects
- Encourage low impact development (LID) and incorporate LID principles into permits
- Encourage salt and nutrient management plans to consider/incorporate aquifer storage recovery
- Infrastructure improvements, sewer conveyance, and pump stations
- Incorporate climate change adaptations into regulatory decisions (i.e., protect floodplains, wetlands and stream environment zones/riparian)